



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : K. AYUKAWA et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed

:Concurrently Herewith

For

:THIN AUTOTENSIONER

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant hereby claims the right of priority granted pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 119 based upon Japanese Application Nos. 2001-114769, filed April 13, 2001; 2001-115003, filed April 13, 2001; and 2001-129141, filed April 26, 2001. As required by 37 C.F.R. 1.55, certified copies of the Japanese applications are being submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted, K. AYUKAWA et al.

Bruce H. Bernstein

Reg. No. 29,027

September 25, 2001 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1941 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191